

CALFRESH (CF) PROGRAM REQUEST FOR POLICY/REGULATION INTERPRETATION

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete items 1 - 10 on the form. Use a separate form for each policy interpretation request. If additional space is needed, please use the second page. Be sure to identify the additional discussion with the appropriate number and heading. Retain a copy of the CF 24 for your records.

- Questions from counties, including county Quality Control, must be submitted by the county CalFresh Coordinator and may be submitted directly to the CalFresh Policy analyst assigned responsibility for the county, with a copy directed to the appropriate CalFresh Policy unit manager.
- Questions from Administrative Law Judges may be submitted directly to the CalFresh Policy analyst assigned responsibility to the county where the hearing took place, with a copy of the form directed to the appropriate CalFresh Bureau unit manager.

1. RESPONSE NEEDED DUE TO: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy/Regulation Interpretation <input type="checkbox"/> QC <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Hearing <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	5. DATE OF REQUEST: 9/14/2012	NEED RESPONSE BY: 9/24/2012
2. REQUESTOR NAME:	6. COUNTY/ORGANIZATION: Shasta County	
3. PHONE NO.:	7. SUBJECT: Shelter Expense - Program Fees	
4. REGULATION CITE(S): 63-502.362, ACIN I-73-04 questions # 8 - 10	8. REFERENCES: (Include ACL/ACIN, court cases, etc. in references) NOTE: All requests must have a regulation cite(s) and/or a reference(s).	

9. QUESTION: (INCLUDE SCENARIO IF NEEDED FOR CLARITY):

Per ACIN I-73-04 Questions # 9 and 10, "program fees" paid to participate in a rehabilitation program at a drug/alcohol facility may be allowed as a shelter expense. Does the drug/alcohol facility have to be a Food and Nutrition Services (FNS)-recognized facility? Is all of the program fee an allowable expense?

Scenario:

Client is staying in transitional housing facility which run by a community-based organization which is not a FNS-recognized drug/alcohol facility. The client must pay the "Program Fee" each month in order to live in one of the apartments and receive drug and alcohol counseling. (Scenario continued on page 2)

10. REQUESTOR'S PROPOSED ANSWER:

"Program Fees" are not included as a shelter cost as defined in 63-502.362.
 The portion of "Program Fees" charged by a drug/alcohol facility that can be identified as a shelter cost would be an allowable shelter expense for CalFresh. (ACIN I-73-04 Question #10)
 In this scenario, the shelter expense is \$78 and the client is eligible to the Standard Utility Allowance.

11. STATE POLICY RESPONSE (CFPB USE ONLY):

The state concurs with the proposed answer. "Program Fees" are not included as a shelter cost as defined in 63-502.362. Whatever portion is identified as a shelter cost is a deductible expense, as stated in ACIN I-73-04 Q and A # 10. The portion of "Program Fees" charged by a drug/alcohol facility that can be identified as a shelter cost would be an allowable shelter expense for CalFresh. Because the given information states the client also pays for separate electricity and gas they are eligible for Standard Utility Allowance.

FOR CDSS USE

DATE RECEIVED:	DATE RESPONDED TO COUNTY/ALJ:
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**CALFRESH (CF) PROGRAM
REQUEST FOR POLICY/REGULATION INTERPRETATION (Continued)**

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The client's program fees are broken down as follows:

Rent \$78,

Cleaning/damage deposit \$25,

Program fees \$200 (for books and supplies)

Permanent housing deposit \$75

(This is deposited into a savings account and the balance is returned to the client at the end of the program)

Client also pays for electricity and gas

The client was not homeless prior to moving into Transitional Housing.